

WE CLAIM:

1. A human-machine interface for the control of an audio system, the human-machine interface comprising:

a display in communication with the audio system;

a plurality of knobs, at least one knob of the plurality of knobs having a first selection mode and a second selection mode, the at least one knob being rotatable in the first selection mode and being depressable in the second selection mode; and

the human-machine interface being exclusively controlled through the plurality of knobs.

2. The human-machine interface according to claim 1, the display including a selection controlled by a knob of the plurality of knobs.

3. The human-machine interface according to claim 2, wherein the selection is highlighted by a bar.

4. The human-machine interface according to claim 2, the display including a visual indicator to identify a knob of the plurality of knobs used to control the selection.

5. The human-machine interface according to claim 4, the visual indicator includes the selection being located on the display to align with the knob.

6. The human-machine interface according to claim 5, wherein the visual indicator includes the shape of the bar.

7. The human-machine interface according to claim 5, comprising at least one menu screen, each knob of the at least one knob corresponding to one menu screen of the at least one menu screen.

8. The human-machine interface according to claim 7, wherein rotating a knob of the at least one knob causes the corresponding menu screen of the at least one menu screen to be displayed.

9. The human-machine interface according to claim 7, wherein depressing a knob of the at least one knob causes the corresponding menu screen of the at least one menu screen to be displayed.

10. The human-machine interface according to claim 1, wherein each knob of the at least one knob is adapted to a first and second control function.

11. The human-machine interface according to claim 10, wherein one of the first control function includes a VOLUME control and the second control function an ON/OFF control.

12. The human-machine interface according to claim 10, wherein one of the first control function includes a AM/FM control and the second control function a MUTE control.

13. The human-machine interface according to claim 10, wherein one of the first control function includes a SEEK control and the second control function a SCAN control.

14. The human-machine interface according to claim 10, wherein one of the first control function includes a MENU control and the second control function a SELECT control.

15. The human-machine interface according to claim 10, wherein one of the first control function includes a PRESET control and the second control function a SAVE control.

16. The human-machine interface according to claim 10, wherein one of the first control function includes a TUNE control and the second control function an AUTO SET control.

17. A human-machine interface for the control of an audio system, the human-machine interface comprising:

a plurality of knobs including a first selection mode and second selection mode, the first mode of selection including rotating the plurality of knobs, the second mode of selection including depressing the plurality of knobs, wherein the human machine interface is controlled exclusively by the plurality of knobs; and

a display in communication with the audio system, the display adapted to provide a selection indicator and a visual indicator, the visual indicator identifying a knob of the plurality of knobs used to control the selection indicator.

18. The human-machine interface according to claim 17, the visual indicator includes the selection being located on the display to align with the knob.

19. The human-machine interface according to claim 17, wherein the selection is highlighted by a bar.

20. The human-machine interface according to claim 19, wherein the visual indicator includes the shape of the bar.

21. The human-machine interface according to claim 17 comprising at least one menu screen, each knob of at least one knob corresponding to one menu screen of the at least one menu screens.

22. The human-machine interface according to claim 21, wherein rotating a knob of the at least one knob causes the corresponding menu screen of the at least one menu screen to be displayed.

23. The human-machine interface according to claim 21, wherein depressing a knob of the at least one knob causes the corresponding menu screen of the at least one menu screen to be displayed.

24. The human-machine interface according to claim 17, wherein each knob of the at least one knob is adapted to a first and second control function.

25. The human-machine interface according to claim 24, wherein one of the first control function includes a VOLUME control and the second control function an ON/OFF control.

26. The human-machine interface according to claim 24, wherein one of the first control function includes a AM/FM control and the second control function a MUTE control.

27. The human-machine interface according to claim 24, wherein one of the first control function includes a SEEK control and the second control function a SCAN control.

28. The human-machine interface according to claim 24, wherein one of the first control function includes a MENU control and the second control function a SELECT control.

29. The human-machine interface according to claim 24, wherein one of the first control function includes a PRESET control and the second control function a SAVE control.

30. The human-machine interface according to claim 24, wherein one of the first control function includes a TUNE control and the second control function an AUTO SET control.

31. A human-machine interface for controlling an audio system, the human-machine interface comprising:

a display in communication with the audio system; and

at least three knobs, the at least three knobs being capable of a first and second selection mode, the first selection mode including rotating the knob, the second selection mode including depressing the knob.

32. The human-machine interface according to claim 31, the display including a selection and a visual indicator to identify a knob of the at least one knob used to control the selection.

33. The human-machine interface according to claim 32, the visual indicator includes the selection being located on the display to align with the knob.

34. The human-machine interface according to claim 32, wherein the selection is highlighted by a bar.

35. The human-machine interface according to claim 34, wherein the visual indicator includes the shape of the bar.

36. The human-machine interface according to claim 31, comprising at least one menu screen, each knob of at least one knob corresponding to one menu screen of the at least one menu screens.

37. The human-machine interface according to claim 36, wherein rotating a knob of the at least one knob causes the corresponding menu screen of the at least one menu screen to be displayed.

38. The human-machine interface according to claim 36, wherein depressing a knob of the at least one knob causes the corresponding menu screen of the at least one menu screen to be displayed.

39. The human-machine interface according to claim 31, wherein each knob of the at least one knob is adapted to a first and second control function.